

Fawn River Nature Preserve

Just west of 10100 E. 800 N, Orland, IN 46776

ACREAGE: 135.3 | ACQUIRED: 1997



From the parking lot, the trail cuts through an early successional field before looping through an upland beech/maple wooded section where visitors can enjoy a display of gold-yellow foliage in the fall. In early spring, seasonal pools of water called vernal pools provide mating grounds for frogs and salamanders.

The loop trail's westernmost point offers a scenic view of this preserve's centerpiece: Fawn River. This pristine tributary of the St. Joseph River has never been channelized or dredged. Fawn River's clean, clear waters also provide habitat for a large number of freshwater mussels, some of the most threatened species in Indiana. Even low levels of poisonous pesticides and herbicides can harm these mussels. Feeding on small, floating algae and bacteria, mussels filter gallons of water each day.

TRAIL LENGTH ~ 1.5 MILES | DIFFICULTY 

